忍びの国

Ninja no Kuni

原作◆和田竜
『忍びの国』新潮社刊

作画◆坂ノ睦

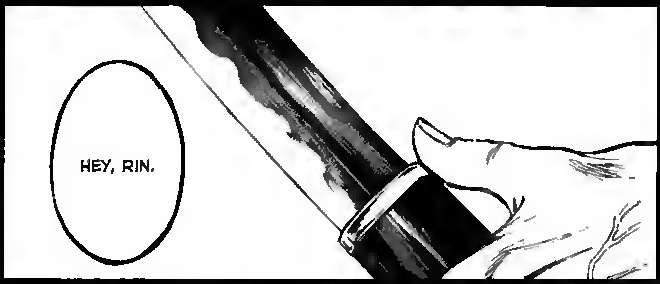
目次

Shinobi no Kuni

第十壱話◆3
第十弐話◆35
第十参話◆67
第十四話◆99
第十伍話◆131
第十六話◆161

Please accept this and avenge my father's death!!
Father...

FATHER/ NOBUKATSU WILL BE HERE ANYTIME NOW/
PLEASE ESCAPE.../


HEY, RIN.

FA-THER
HERE, TAKE THIS.
...FATHER...
I AM GOING TO MEET YOUR HUSBAND.

IT'S THE KONASU.
NOT ONLY IS IT WORTHY OF ICHI-JOU, IT'S WORTH IS 10,000 GAN AND IS A TREASURED UTENSIL OF OUR HOUSEHOLD.
HE'S LEAVING TAMARUJOU AND COMING SPECIALLY TO MEET US.
I THINK IT'S A GOOD GESTURE.
NOW, TAKE IT.
GO SAFELY...
AND TAKE CARE OF IT.

Compared to him, I am just so...
As a father he protected me and as head of the Kitabatake household, he never ran away from his fate, even until the end.
Petty...!!*
*T/N: IN THIS LINE IT WAS WRITTEN KONASU WHICH HAS TWO MEANINGS - NAME OF THE RARE UTENSIL AND - PETTY. SO THE AUTHOR USED A PUN THERE
That being the case,
If only I have this...
I will never run away to another country if you don't have any money!!
ちっ

FINE WITH ME.

I'LL BE TAKING THIS.

6

THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT GOD HAS GRANTED MY WISH AND SENT HIM.
IT'S OKAY
MY PRAYERS HAVE BEEN HEARD.

THAT'S THE KITABATAKE HOUSEHOLD'S

PRIN-CESS!

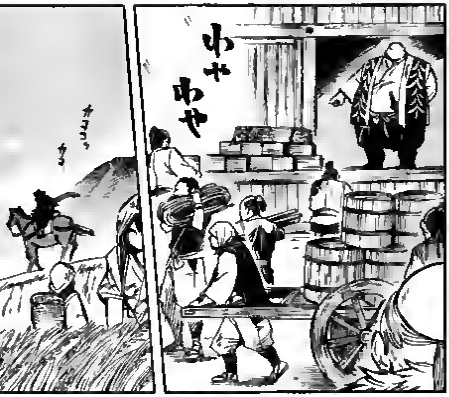
I...
...HAVE FINALLY TURNED FROM BEING A POWER-LESS PERSON TO THE PERSON I SHOULD BE.

PRI-NCE-SS...
NOW I DON'T HAVE ANY REGRETS

Konasu I never thought I would be able to achieve this much!
Now.

I can convince Okuni and we can leave Iga at once!
BUT WOULDN'T THAT BE STUPID,
TO THROW AWAY A TREASURE WORTH 10,000 GAN...
IS REVENGE REALLY THAT NECESSARY?
HUH
HE'S THE MONK FROM BEFORE
DID HE SLIP?
B
.....!

HMM.
SHE WAS A DUMB WOMAN AFTER ALL.
TO BELIEVE THE WORDS OF A NINJA...
FOOLS HAVE TO DIE.
DESTRUCTION OF A COUNTRY, REVENGE...
NOTHING NEW.


ゆや
ゆや
ガコッ
ガコッ

もぞ

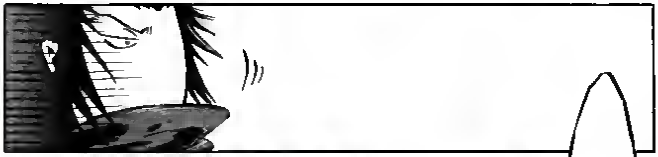
OKUNI!!

LET'S RUN AWAY.
OKUNI! WAKE UP!
...WHAT IS IT?
AGAIN, THE SAME THING?
I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT!
?

IT'S THE KONASU.
IT'S WORTH 10,000 GAN!
LET'S SELL IT
AND GET MARRIED IN KYOUTO!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

COWARD!

WHEN EVERYONE IN IGA IS PREPARING FOR WAR,
YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT RUNNING AWAY?!



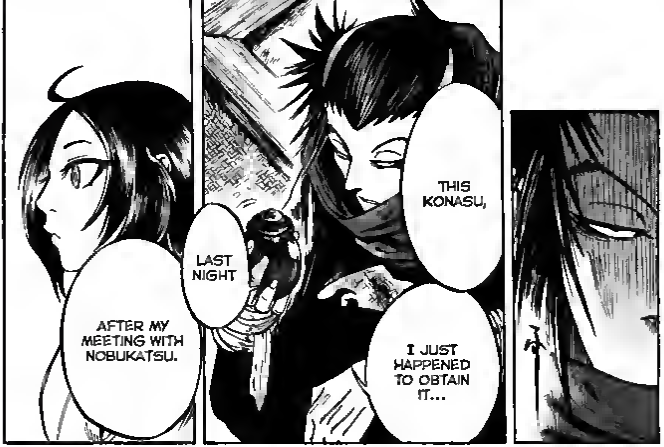
14

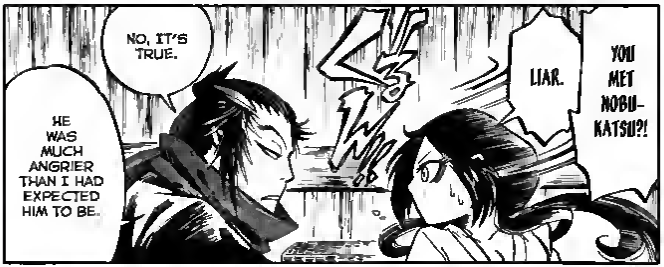
I WAS WRONG!

MU-MON...
I REALLY MEANT IT WHEN,
I SAID WE WON'T RUN AWAY UNLESS WE HAVE ZENIS, BUT...

3

...Ahh, maybe..
It's because of the Samurai blood in her.
...What the hell?
The determination to face anything that threatens their reputation or their homeland, even if it costs them their life.
Even Kitabatake's daughter was the same. She threw it away everything for revenge.
15
SHE WOULDN'T GET IT... IF YOU DIE, EVERYTHING'S OVER.
IT'S NECESSARY TO DECEIVE THE OTHER PEOPLE IN ORDER TO SURVIVE
IT'S THE PATH OF A NINJA.
EVEN IF SHE CALLS ME A COWARD,


THIS KONASU,
I JUST HAPPENED TO OBTAIN IT...
LAST NIGHT
AFTER MY MEETING WITH NOBUKATSU.


YOU MET NOBU-KATSU?!
LIAR.
NO, IT'S TRUE.
HE WAS MUCH ANGRIER THAN I HAD EXPECTED HIM TO BE.

NOT ONLY THE SHINOBI,
BUT HE'LL NOT SPARE EVEN THE WOMEN AND CHIL-DREN OF IGA.
.....
EVEN WOMEN AND CHIL-DREN...

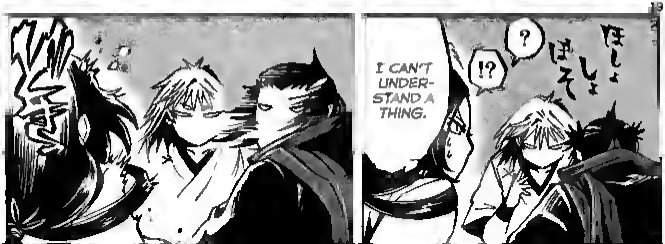
I DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO YOUR THREATS!!
?!!
.....
HE INTENDS TO REDUCE IGA TO ASHES.
I WONDER IF EVEN YOU CAN STAY SAFE

17

EVEN THREATENING WASN'T OF ANY USE!
EVEN THOUGH IT WORKS LIKE A CHARM ON OTHER PEOPLE...
IF THAT'S TRUE, THERE'S NO NEED TO RUN AWAY FROM THIS BATTLE!!
YOU ARE IGA'S STRONGEST NINJA, RIGHT?!

WHY ARE YOU HERE?
?
.....
むぐっ
HUH ...
STATE YOUR BUSI-NESS.
JUST LIKE THE RUMORS SAY, IT SEEMS YOU WERE FOOLED
ケケケ
NOTHING, I WAS JUST WONDERING IF YOU WERE HOME.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
AS EXPECTED, YOU WEREN'T THERE RIGHT?

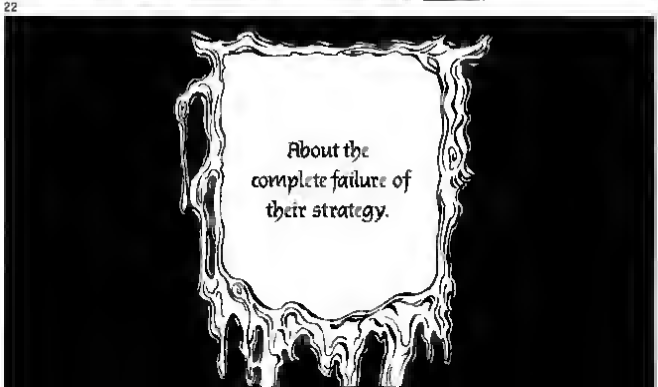
T/N: LEAF CHAFE TECHNIQUE. TO TALK IN SUCH AN INDISTINCT IVE VOICE THAT THE OTHER PERSON CAN ONLY HEAR NOISE SIMILAR TO THE RUBBING OF LEAVES



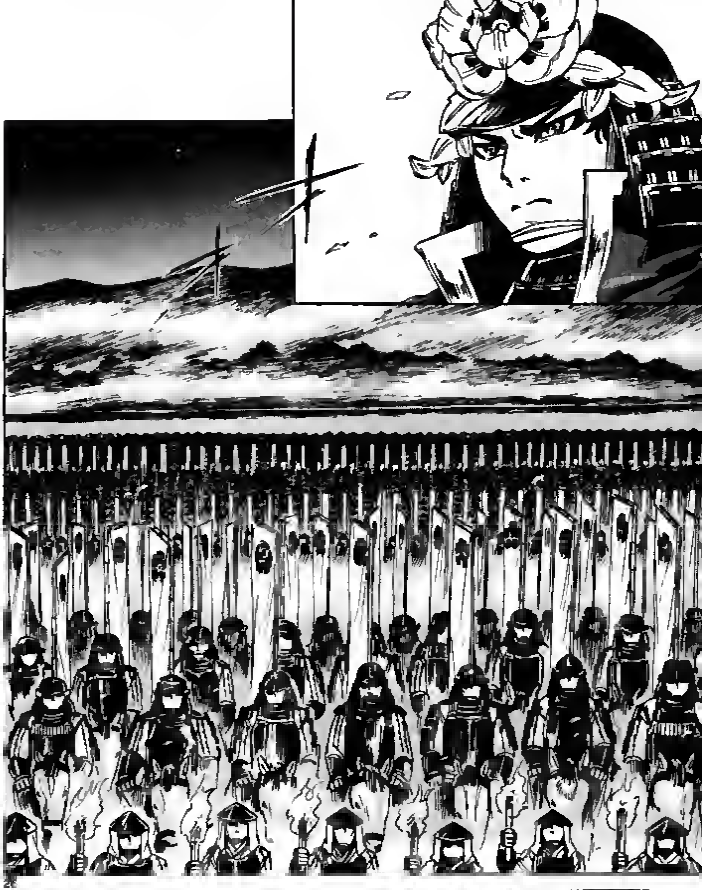
I DON'T WANT TO RUN AWAY!
OKUNI, LET'S RUN AWAY.
IGA WILL BE DESTROYED.

THE MOMENT THIS WAR BEGINS,
IGA WILL LOSE.
YOU WERE BORN IN HIROSHIMA,
YOU ARE NOT OBLIGATED TO DIE FOR IGA.
WE ARE GOING TO ESCAPE TOGETHER!

The Twelve House Council
is still unaware


About the complete failure of their strategy.

Everything went so perfectly according to the plan that it was almost frightening
To achieve their aim, they do not care how extreme their methods are
They excel at using the technique that manipulates the hearts of people
But not all hearts can be easily manipulated like a chess piece
Even inside Iga, such manipulation has started
Moreover, this time...



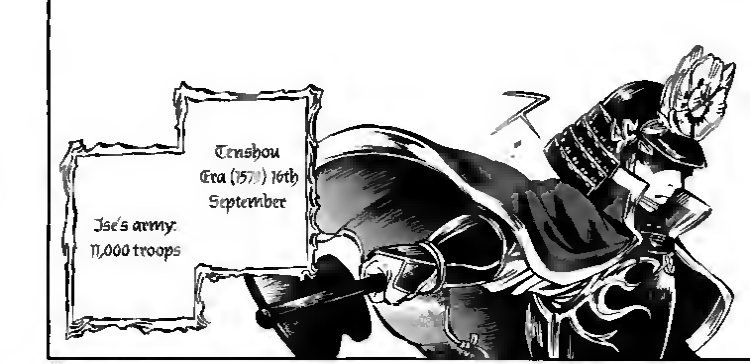
LISTEN UP!! WARRIORS OF ISE!!!
THIS IS WHAT IGA ASKED
THAT'S WHY, MARCH INTO IGA WITHOUT ANY HESITATION!
MAKE THEM FEEL THE HORROR OF ISE'S MILITARY POWER TO THE VERY CORE OF THEIR BONES!!!
AYE!

DAIZEN.
AH
AH-
HHH!

AHHHHHH!

HE FINALLY CAME.
...HEY, LOOK AT THAT FACE...
HM.

I can't let them cause more pain for others to fulfill their greed.
AH-HH!
This war is for justice!!
31


Tenshou
Era (1571) 16th
September
Ise's army:
11,000 troops

進軍!!
ADVANCE!!

Shinobi no Kuni

by WADA Ryou & BANNO Mutsumi

Shinobi no Kuni 11

Credits

Scanner: Claudia
Translator: Raiden
Proofreader: Jaesun
Cleaner: Shakeypen
Typesetter: nplm
QC: Claudia

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!
Awa Entrance, Iga
THEY'RE HERE! IT'S THE ISE ARMY!
INFORM THE COMMANDERS AT ONCE!

YES SIR. THE ENEMY'S ARMY IS ADVANCING FROM 3 DIFFERENT PATHS
Commander Momoji Sandayuu
HAVE THEY COME?
Iga
Iseji
Ise
Bano
5000 troops
1500 troops
1300 troops
IF THEY CONTINUE TO PROCEED LIKE THIS
AND SAKIYOU NOSUKE FROM ISEJI ENTRANCE
SABUROU ZAEMON IS ADVANCING FROM BANO ENTRANCE
WE RECOGNIZED THEM FROM THEIR EMBLEMS.
The battle will begin by dawn tomorrow...!!

MAKE SABURA ZAEMON TASTE THE POWER OF YOUR JUTSUS!
DID EVERYONE HEAR ME?!
Bano Entrance
Commander Kai Shimoyama
SOLDIERS, HURRY UP WITH THE PREPARATIONS!!
TOMORROW'S THE DAY!
Iseji Entrance
Commander Otowa Hanroku

4

NO, THE ARMY OF HEKI HOUSEHOLD'S ARMY IS NOT TO BE SEEN ANYWHERE.

WHAT ABOUT HEKI DAIZEN?

AS I THOUGHT,
THE PLACE OF ATTACK IS AS PER MY PLAN
TELL ME,

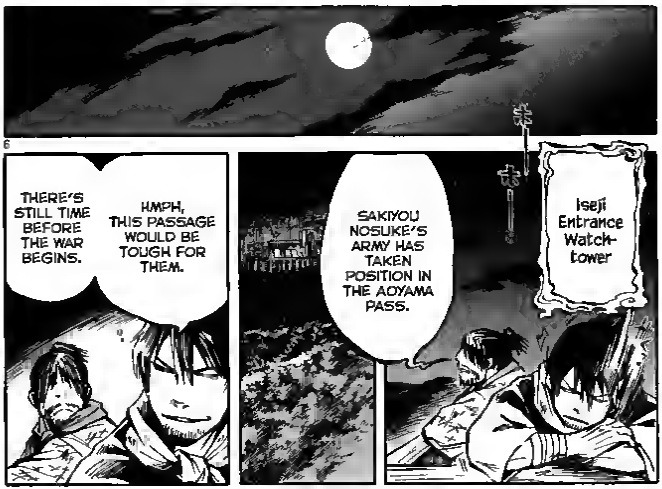
PLAN SUCCEEDED!!
IS THAT SO...

THIS TIME'S PLAN IS JUST FLAWLESS.
MUMON GAVE THE FINAL TOUCH TO THIS PLAN!
IT'S EXACTLY AS SAN-DAYUU SAID.
AS A NINJA OF IGA, HE WAS PA-THETIC BUT,
IN THE END HE PROVED TO BE A LITTLE USEFUL

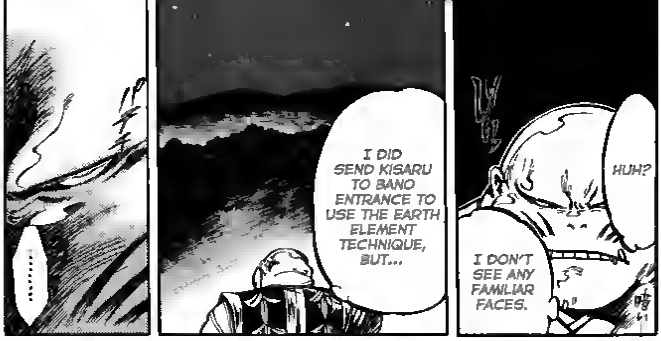
5

THEN I'LL USE THEM AS I SEE FIT!
I can already see our victory!
THE GENINS OF THE TWELVE HOUSE COUNCIL WILL CAPTURE YOUR EVERY COMMANDER AND BRING THEM TO US.

Soon, our military strength will become well known throughout the world!!!


6
Iseji Entrance Watchtower
SAKIYOU NOSUKE'S ARMY HAS TAKEN POSITION IN THE AOYAMA PASS.
HMPH, THIS PASSAGE WOULD BE TOUGH FOR THEM.
THERE'S STILL TIME BEFORE THE WAR BEGINS.

LET'S TAKE A NAP.
HMM
IS IT DAYBREAK?
7
WAKE UP!!
HAVE YOU UNDERSTOOD?
WHEN NOBUKATSU'S ARMY PASSES THROUGH THE AWA ENTRANCE,
THEY'LL DEFINITELY TAKE THE PATH ALONG THE RIVER.
WHEN THEY DO SO, THEIR 1000 TROOPS WILL BE...
ふふ


I DID SEND KISARU TO BANO ENTRANCE TO USE THE EARTH ELEMENT TECHNIQUE, BUT...
HUH?
I DON'T SEE ANY FAMILIAR FACES.

WHERE IS MUMON?!

TCH.
HEY YOU!!
MUMON ISN'T HERE.

NOT EVEN A SINGLE GENIN FROM MOMOJI'S HOUSEHOLD IS HERE.
NOT ONLY MUMON IS ABSENT...
...WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
.....!?
Bano Entrance
...UH— OH WELL.

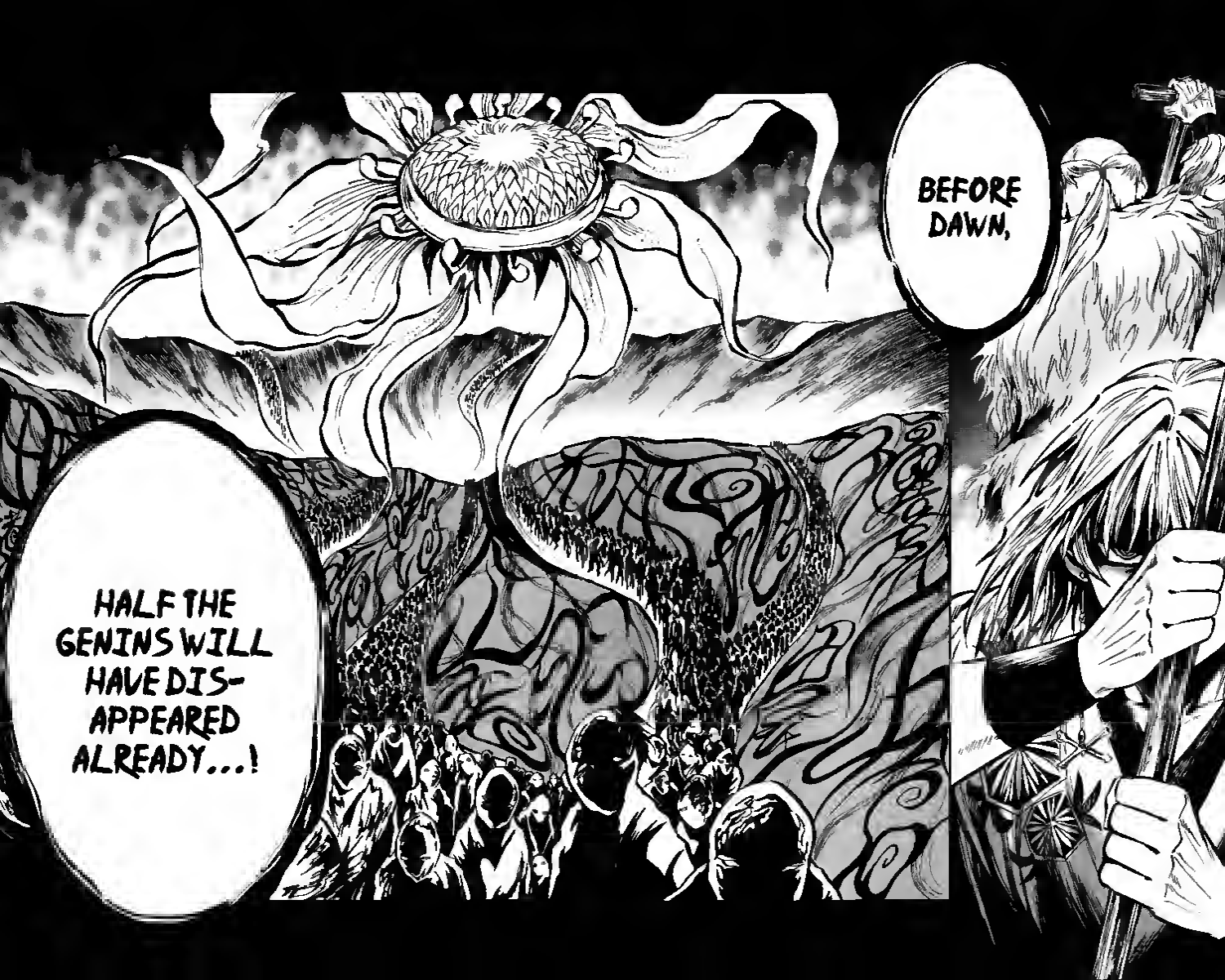
THE LORDS MUST HAVE NOTICED THE UNUSUAL STATE OF EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE BY NOW.
HEY, HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO SULK LIKE THIS?
USE THE LEAF CHAFE JUTSU!
TCH ...
AFTER ALL,
BECAUSE OF ALL THIS, EVERYONE...
THAT DAY! THAT NIGHT WHEN THE LORDS HANDED OUT THE ORDER FOR WAR...

10

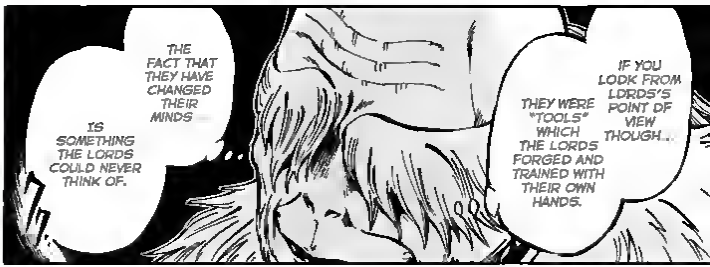
IF YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT THE COUNCIL SAID TO THE GENINS DURING THAT SUDDEN MEETING
"THERE'S NO BENEFIT FOR HEKI DAIZEN AND NAGANO SAKIY OUNOSUKE IN PROVIDING THEIR SERVICES FOR FREE."
"THEY NO LONGER ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THEIR LORD AND HAVE ALREADY RUN AWAY."

BLOODY MUMON,
WHEN I TOLD HIM ABOUT THIS,
HE DID NOT WASTE A SECOND AND STARTED PERSUADING OKUNI
THAT BASTARD WAS NOT ONLY ABSENT FROM THE MEETING, HE WAS EVEN PLANNING TO RUN AWAY FROM HERE!
... WELL
HE'S THAT KIND OF PERSON ANYWAY

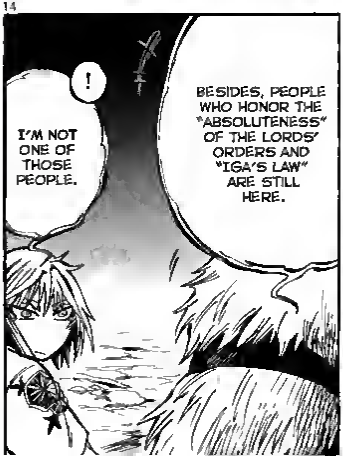
BUT ULTIMA-TELY,
EVERYONE FROM THE MOMOJI HOUSEHOLD EXCEPT US
HAS ALREADY ESCAPED FROM IGA.
...AND IT'S NOT ONLY OUR GROUP.


BEFORE DAWN,
HALF THE GENINS WILL HAVE DIS-APPEARED ALREADY...!

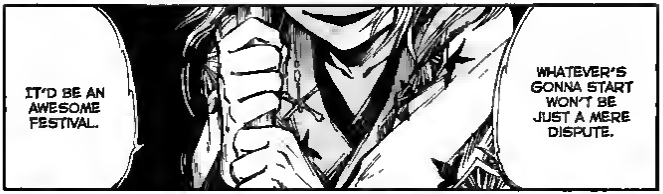
EVERYONE WAS ALREADY DISSATISFIED BY THE WAY THEY WERE BEING TREATED BY THE LORDS.
"TOOLS"
...THAT'S TRUE BUT,
ISN'T EVERYTHING HIS FAULT!?
"NO KILLING WITHOUT MONEY"
EVERYONE HAS STARTED FOLLOWING HIS WAYS!


THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE CHANGED THEIR MINDS
IS SOMETHING THE LORDS COULD NEVER THINK OF.
THEY WERE "TOOLS" WHICH THE LORDS FORGED AND TRAINED WITH THEIR OWN HANDS.
IF YOU LOOK FROM LORDS'S POINT OF VIEW THOUGH...

14


!
I'M NOT ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE.
BESIDES, PEOPLE WHO HONOR THE "ABSOLUTENESS" OF THE LORDS' ORDERS AND "IGA'S LAW" ARE STILL HERE.

NINJAS ARE SUCH CREA-TURES.
EVEN IF WE FORCE THEM TO STAY, THERE'S A POSSIBILITY THAT THEY MAY SIDE WITH THE ENEMY.
WELL, LET'S JUST FORGET ABOUT THE GUYS WHO HAVE RUN AWAY

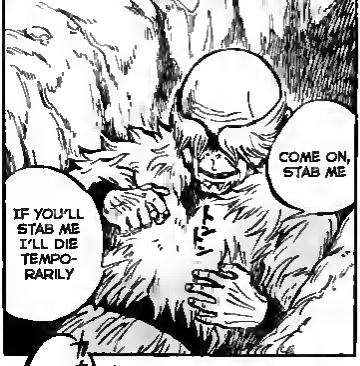

IT'D BE AN AWESOME FESTIVAL.
WHATEVER'S GONNA START WON'T BE JUST A MERE DISPUTE.

EVERYONE'S GONNA ENJOY IT!

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO USE MY EARTH JUTSU DURING THE WAR.
As promised, here, at Bano, Tsuge will breathe his last...!

HAVE I BECOME OLD...
NO, IT'S NOT THAT.

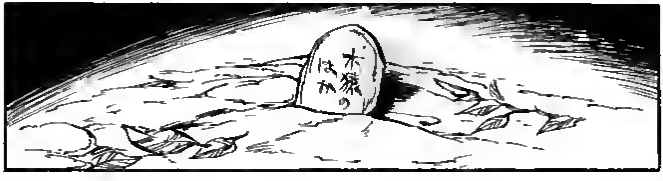
THIS IS IN FACT A REAL EARTH JUTSU.
NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO SENSE MY PRESENCE
NOW, IF YOU'LL COVER MY BODY WITH MUD,


IF YOU'LL STAB ME I'LL DIE TEMPO-RARILY
COME ON, STAB ME

ARE YOU WITH ME?
THIS TAKE-TSUGE ... WOULD HE REALLY BE FINE?

HEY, DO IT!

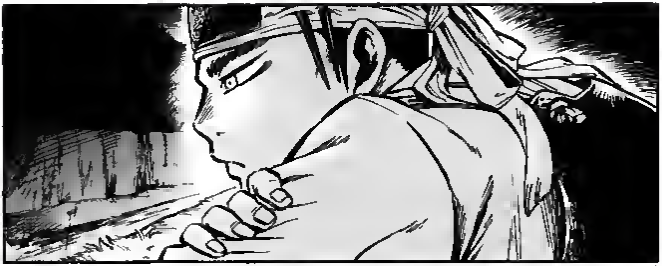
16


木猿の墓

UHHHH~ WHY DOESN'T IT START ALREADY...
...NOW,
IF I RETURN NOW, THE LORD IS DEFINITELY GOING TO YELL AT ME.
IT'S BETTER IF I KILL TIME BY LOITERING HERE

WHY DIDN'T YOU INFORM ME ABOUT THIS EARLIER?!!
YOU MORON!!!

I HAVE NO DUTY TO INFORM YOU.
I AM NOT A GENIN OF THE MOMOJI HOUSEHOLD.
... HEH.
HE HE HE
TETSU.
DID YOU KNOW ALL ALONG?!
Shit!!!
YOU!
BAS-TARD
I never thought that those daily quarrels would take such a form...!
!



You knew it!!!
Ooo.

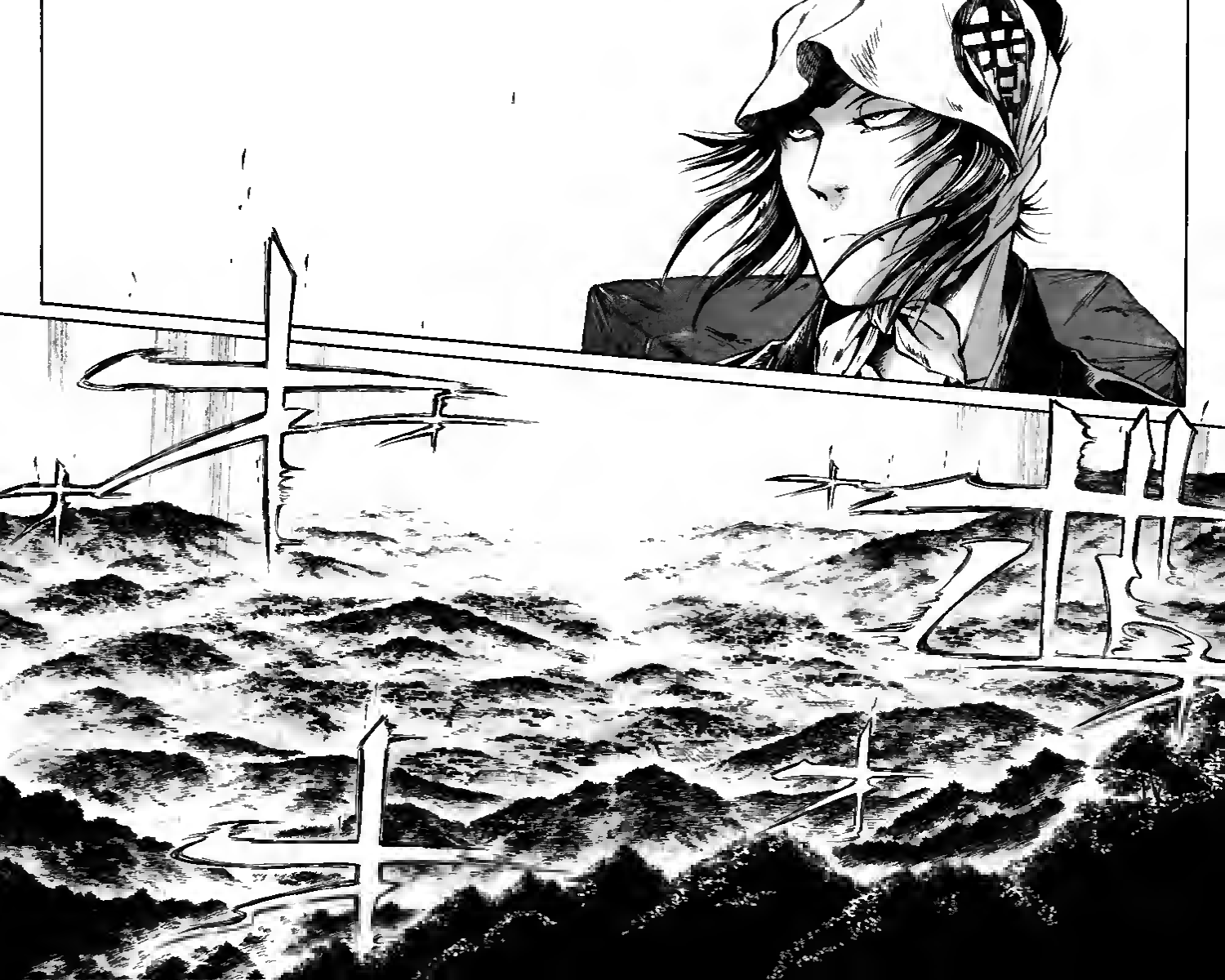
!!
JINGA!?
IS IT DAWN YET?
20
A FLARE IS RISING FROM NAGANO PASS.
HAS NOBUKATSU'S ARMY,
RESUMED MARCHING...
BUT...
THERE'S NOT ENOUGH TIME TO CALL MUMON BACK.

In this situation...
Half of the Genins have already disappeared...
21
Can we even win...?!
IT SEEMS EVERYONE HAS BETRAYED THE LORD AND ARE RUNNING AWAY
.....

IT SEEMS SO.
MUMON, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
OBVIOUSLY, I'LL RUN AWAY.
THAT'S WHY I AM GOING TO NEED ALL THE SHURIKENS YOU HAVE
TCH.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I WAS ABLE TO MAKE IT THIS FAR DUE TO THE LORDS' GRACE.
I'LL RETURN THE FAVOUR.

SEE YA.
NICE GUTS.

HEY MUMON.
Hmm?
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY SHAME?
23
NOPE.
NINJAS ARE SUCH CREATURES YOU SEE.
ヒュー
THAT ...
BAS-TARD MUMON ...



SHAME, HUH?
HAS IT ALREADY STARTED?
I am not indebted to that old man Sandayuu.
SERIOUSLY, WHAT A CRAP.
26
He must have been provoked while he was still a baby.
HE FORCED ME TO DO DANGEROUS MISSIONS AND RIPPED OFF MOST OF MY PROFITS.
WHO'D BE GRATEFUL TO SUCH A GUY...
The words "Lords' orders are absolute" were etched onto our minds.
Without telling me from where I was, I was forced to learn Ninja jutsus.

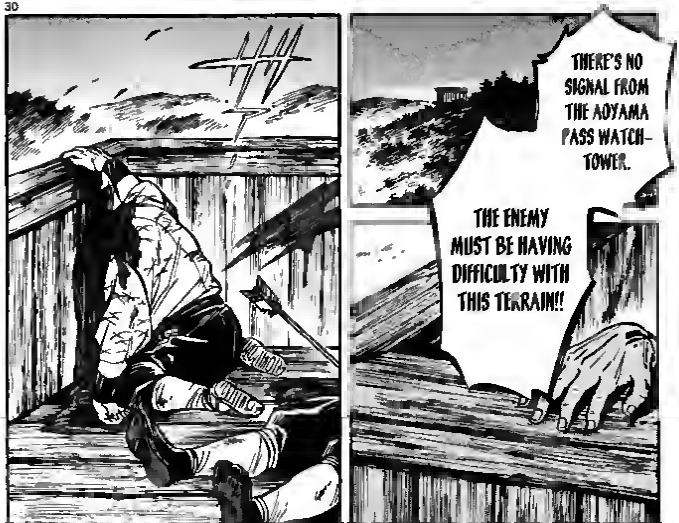
Just as mere tools.
Even our names...
ALL THE GENINS MUST BE THINKING THE SAME THING. NOT ONLY THE LORDS
EVEN SUCH A COUNTRY SHOULD—
MUMON.

PEOPLE, HAVE INCREASED CONSIDERABLY.
I TOLD YOU, THAT HALF OF THE GENINS WOULD RUN AWAY.
LET'S GO, IT'S THE END FOR IGA.

TH... THAT'S ...
MOST OF YOUR GENINS HAVE DISAP-PEARED?!
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?!!
Bako Entrance
WHAT STUPID-ITY...
I AM NOT LISTENING
DON'T REPORT ABOUT THIS TO THE TWELVE HOUSE COUNCIL...
NO, BUT!
Iseji Entrance
HEY, YOU.
ACCORDING TO THE PLAN, DAIZEN IS NOT GOING TO PARTICI-PATE IN THE WAR, RIGHT?
IN THAT CASE WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN!!

YOU ARE MOMIJI HOUSEHOLD'S GENIN, RIGHT?
うわ！
I'VE BEEN CAUGHT..
GO AND BRING BACK ALL THE GENINS WHO HAVE RUN AWAY!

THAT'D BE IMPOSSIBLE.
YOU CAN STILL MAKE IT IN TIME.
WE ARE LUCKY THAT THE ENEMY'S ARMY HASN'T ARRIVED YET!


THERE'S NO SIGNAL FROM THE AOYAMA PASS WATCH-TOWER.
THE ENEMY MUST BE HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH THIS TERRAIN!!

HURRY
...
NOPE.
IT'S TOO LATE.
HUH?! WHY ...
WHAT THE HELL IS HE DOING HERE?!
!!?
?

HEKI DAIZEN!!
MEN,
LET'S SHOW THEM OUR POWER!

Shinobi no Kuni

by WADA Ryou & BANNO Mutsumi

Shinobi no Kuni 12

Credits

Scanner: Claudia
Translator: Raiden
Proofreader: Jaesun
Cleaner: dtito2
Typesetter: nplm
QC: Claudia

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Shinobi no Kuni ch 13

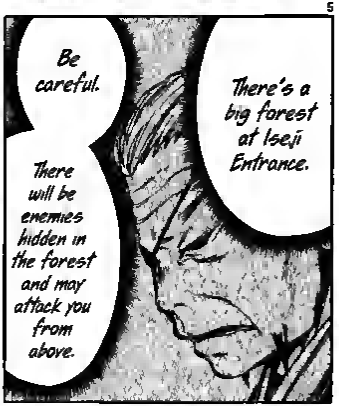
SOLDIERS, ADVANCE!!!
2
W...WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON...

Why is that bastard here?!
DAIZEN WASN'T SUPPOSED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WAR!
THEN WHY ...
LAST NIGHT, THE BATTLE FORMATION AT ISEJI ENTRANCE WAS DEFINITELY DESIGNED BY NAGANO'S ARMY...
...NO, IT MUST BE BEFORE THAT,
I HAVE A STRATEGY.
DAIZEN WILL GO THERE.
THE ASSIGNMENT OF MEN AT EACH ATTACK PLACE WILL BE DONE AS ORDERED.
BUT IGA'S TWELVE HOUSE COUNCIL IS STILL CONVINCED OF "DAIZEN'S NON PARTICIPATION".

CHANGE YOUR FLAG SYMBOLS.
USING [illegible]'S ARMY AS A DECOY WE'LL SECRETLY ADVANCE.
...AGREED
BUT I'LL DECIDE HOW WE MARCH.
AT AOYAMA PASS I'LL DIVIDE THE ARMY IN HALF AND CROSS IT IN THE EVENING.
WE'LL ATTACK IGA EARLY!
WE ARE HERE.

"Tamanuki Forest"

Not a sound... There's nobody's presence at all...
HE SAID SO, BUT...


There's a big forest at Iseji Entrance.
Be careful.
There will be enemies hidden in the forest and may attack you from above.

YES SIR!
LET'S USE THAT.
WHO'S THERE?
But, there's someone ...
COME ALREADY!
AND I'VE BUMPED INTO SUCH A LARGE PREY..
I WAS RIGHT IN COMING HERE...
EVEN THOUGH WE'VE LOST HALF OF OUR GENINS, IF I'M JUST ABLE TO GET MY HANDS ON THEIR LEADER THERE WON'T BE ANY OTHER PROBLEMS!
!

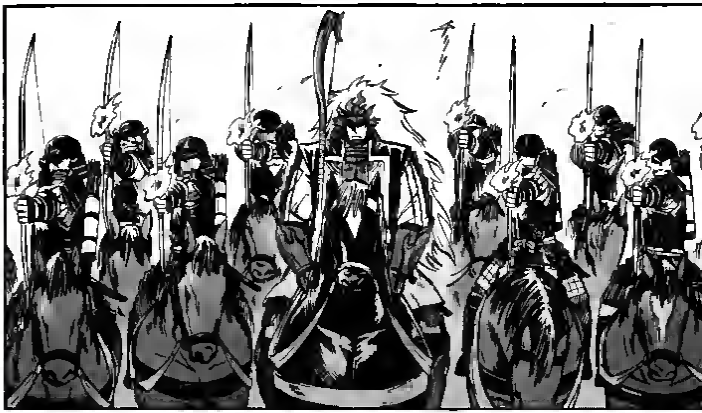
ARE THEY AIMING TO GET US OUT OF HIDING BY BOMBARDING RANDOMLY?
EVEN SO...
AT LEAST LIGHT THE FIRE!
IT SEEMS THEY DO NOT KNOW HOW TO DO IT.
Is that a Fire Arrow...?!

SERIOUSLY, IS IT GOING TO WORK?
?
DAIZEN, TAKE THIS...
ASK YOUR SOLDIERS TO KEEP IT.
IT'LL BE USEFUL IN TAMANUKI FOREST.
Is this an Iga ninja's wisdom...
FINE, I'LL HOLD ON TO IT.
But ...
That thinking hasn't changed yet...

This is the proof that the Kitabatake Army fought at this battle.

T N • AKAINU'S LITERAL TRANSLATION IS RED DOG

IT'S AKAINU'S OIL!!!
THIS IS BAD...



FIRE.

ガキン

...THIS IS TERRIFIC.
うおお
NOW,
THEY'RE COMING.

ドサ
ドサ

FIRE.

GET DOWN !!
!
UHH...

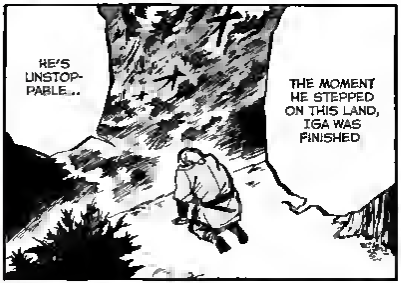
GAAAH!

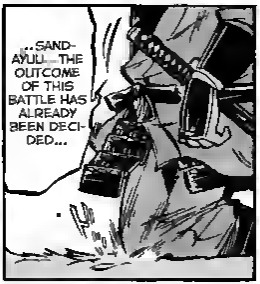
17
ATTACK!!
AHH HHH!
WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW..?
UHH HH
WHAT'S THIS...
HUH?

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS...?!
NOT ONLY HAVE OUR GENINS BEEN REDUCED,
BUT THE ENEMY HAS BROKEN THROUGH OUR DEFENSE WITH SUCH EASE...
18
LORD!
!
It's him...!

!?!!
ガ

Ise's strongest man!!


HE'S UNSTOPPABLE...
THE MOMENT HE STEPPED ON THIS LAND, IGA WAS FINISHED

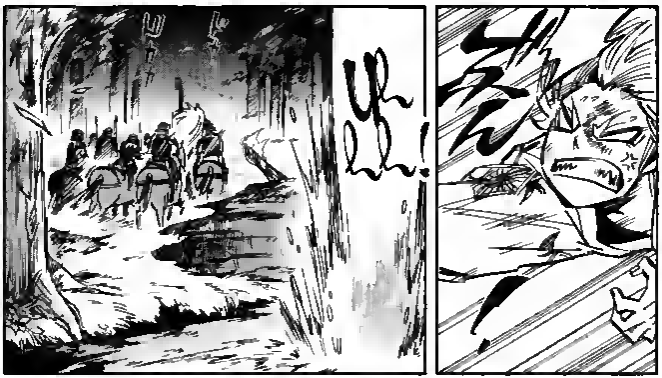

...SANDAYUU... THE OUTCOME OF THIS BATTLE HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED...

Now!

IT'S OVER
BUT DON'T YOU THINK THERE WERE VERY FEW ENEMIES?

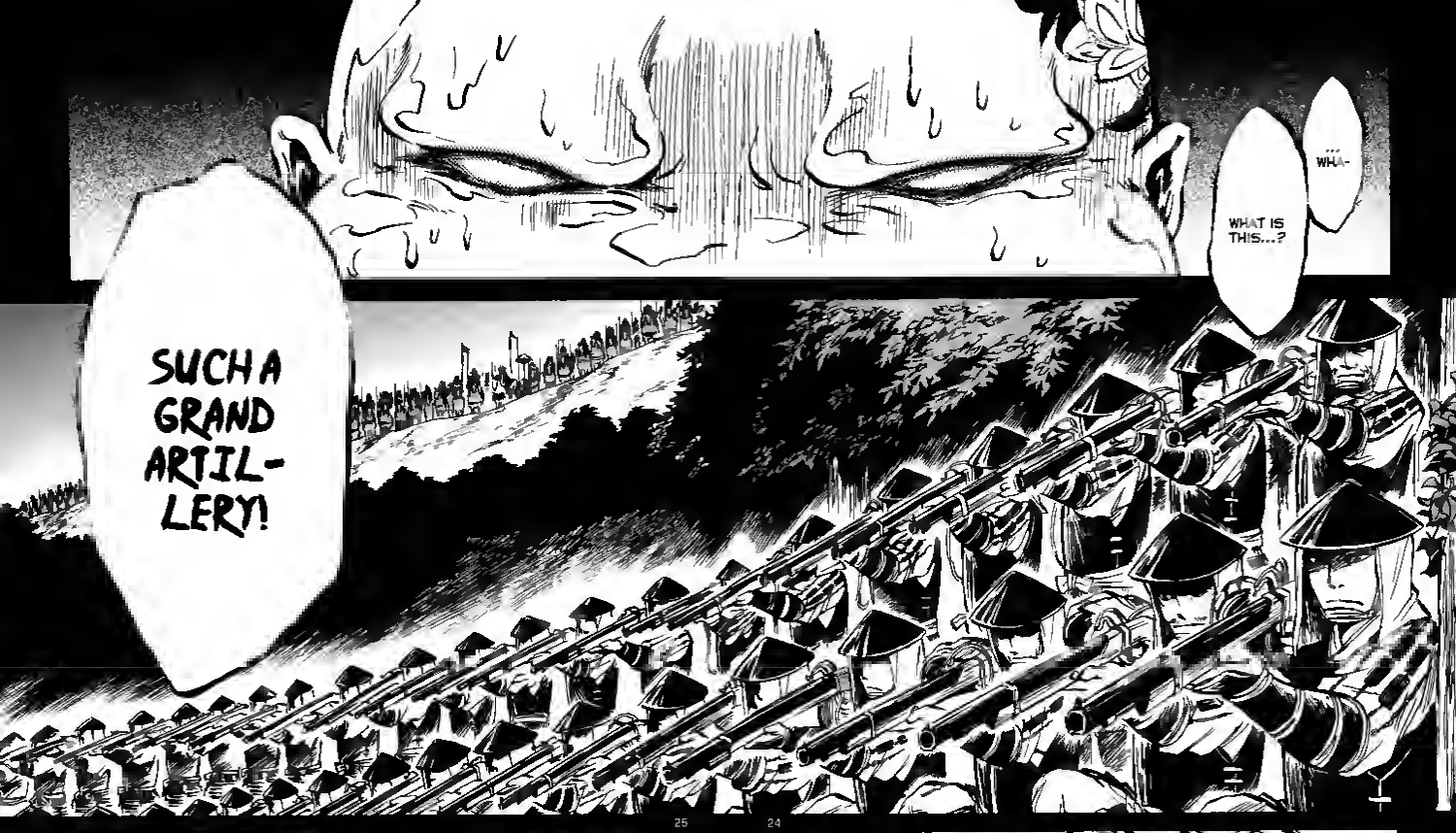
HEKI DAIZEN!!
HE WAS HIDING AMONG THE DEAD BODIES?!
LORD!!
!
A kid...?
OH.

TO OPPOSE HEKI DAIZEN...
I'LL SPARE A GUTSY KID LIKE YOU.
IT HURTS !!!
!?


Uh-huh!

23

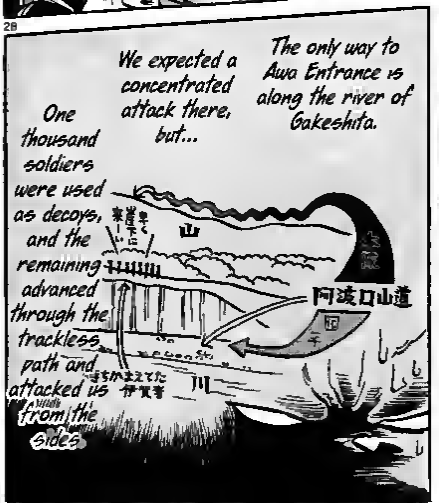
I'll continue to advance until Heirakuji.
Other troops must have taken their position and should be ready to attack.


WHAT IS THIS...?
...WHA-
SUCH A GRAND ARTIL-LERY!

FIRE!

27
26
UGH!

CRUSH THEM!!!


We expected a concentrated attack there, but...
The only way to Awa Entrance is along the river of Gakeshita.
One thousand soldiers were used as decoys, and the remaining advanced through the trackless path and attacked us from the sides
阿波口山道
山
川

UHH...
SHIT!
THIS IS BAD...!

MY LORD.
WHAT IS IT?!
WHY ARE YOU SITTING IDLY?
ATTACK THE ENEMY!!
HEKI DAIZEN IS HERE?!
!?!
...UHH/
We'll lose...

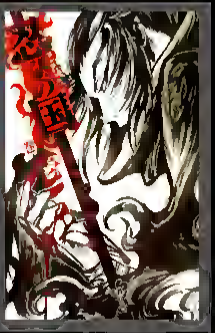
I CAN'T EXPOSE OKUNI TO ANY DANGER AND THAT'S WHY AM ESCAPING.
I HAVE NO COMP-LAINTS, BUT...
IS THIS THE LAST TIME I'M SEEING THIS LAND...
EVERYONE OVER THERE IS GIVING IT THEIR ALL.

...
OKUNI
WHEN WE ARRIVE, FIRST WE'LL HAVE TO BUY A HOUSE.
ONE WITH PROPER FLOORING.
HEY, OKUNI.
IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE YOU WANT?
OKUNI
...
OKUNI...

MAYBE I SHOULD GO...
32
YOU GOING...?
WHERE ARE...
TO WAR.

Shinobi no Kuni

by WADA Ryou & BANNO Mutsumi



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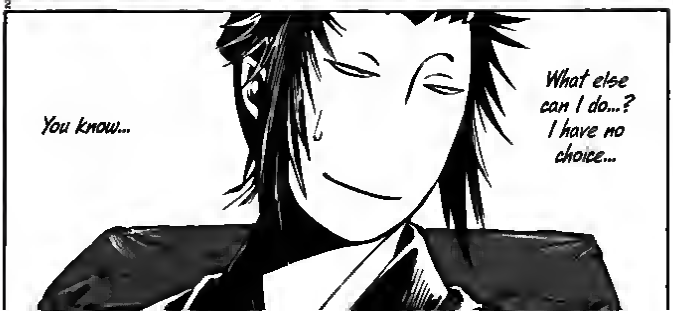
Shinobi no kuni ch14

AS EXPECTED, I'LL BE JOINING...
THE WAR!
WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY "AS EXPECTED" ...?
.....


You know...
What else can I do...? I have no choice...

I get the feeling that Okuni's mood is getting worse.
さくさく
As we travel further from Iga,
Shouldn't that be the case?
As you left the battlefields and your emotions calmed down, your warrior heart returned to you again.
In spite of agreeing to escape once you felt the danger around you...
But your anger is clearly directed to me, the person who had urged you to flee
In the end, I can't say anything about feeling guilty since I ran away myself.
3
This is crucial to the situation!!
Okuni probably won't get over today's incident for a lifetime
If we keep going like this, even if we made it all the way to Kyoto,
The kind of life that awaits me will be...

Which means, there's no point in running away.
I GOTTA DO THIS, HUH?
?
BUT, MUMON-DONO...

ARE YOU PLANNING TO GO ALONE!?
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?

I'm sure there won't be a situation like mine among the other deserters...
WELL, WHAT CAN I SAY...

BUT STILL ...
DESERTING YOUR HOMELAND WITHOUT DEFENDING IT MUST BE AN EMBARASSING AND SINFUL DEED.
...INDEED.

YOU ARE ONLY ONE PERSON! WHAT CAN YOU DO ALONE?
EVEN IF YOU GO BACK THERE ALL BY YOURSELF...
AGAINST AS MANY AS TEN THOUSAND ENEMY SOLDIES.

WELL, WHO KNOWS
ALL I WANT IS A LAID BACK LIFE ..
TOGETHER WITH SWEET-TEMPERED OKUNI-DONO

!
?……
ゴッ
MUMON-DONO!!
?

?
ハァ
...I see!!

I HAVE TEN THOUSAND KAN IN HERE!!!
ど!よ.
IT'S THE KONASU OF KITABATAKE CLAN!
ド.

FROM NOW ON, TO THOSE WHO DECIDE TO JOIN THE BATTLE...
I'LL PAY 10 MON FOR EVERY SMALL FRY HEAD
AND 10 KAN FOR EVERY HEAD IN A HELMET!
FIVE THOUSAND KAN FOR THE HEAD OF NOBUKATSU!!!
ざわ…ざわ…

IN THIS WAR, BOTH SIDES OUGHT TO FIGHT FOR VICTORY!
よいっ
TELL THIS TO ALL THE GENIN:
THOSE WHO ACCEPT MY PROPOSAL
ざわ…ざわ…
SHALL GATHER AT THE BATTLEFIELD AT ONCE!!

IT'S TIME TO SHOW THE SHINOBI SKILLS THAT YOU GOT FROM YEARS OF LONG TRAINING, AND TURN IT INTO A FORTUNE!!

TAKE THIS AND WAIT FOR US AT HEIRAKU TEMPLE.
ポン
OKUNI

M...
HA!?
MUMON-DONO.

YOU MUST... COME BACK ALIVE NO MATTER WHAT...!!

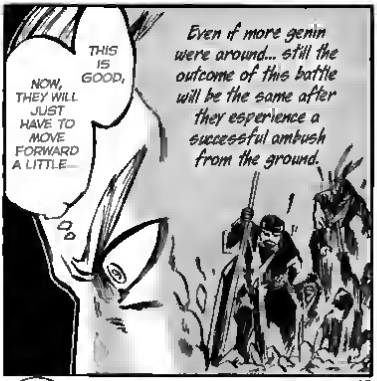
This is it...!!
This is what i've been...
seeking for all my life.
15
REMEMBER, I'M MUMON.
STAYING ALIVE IS CHILD'S PLAY FOR ME.

THEY'RE INCURABLE MORONS FOR SURE
TEE HEE HEE

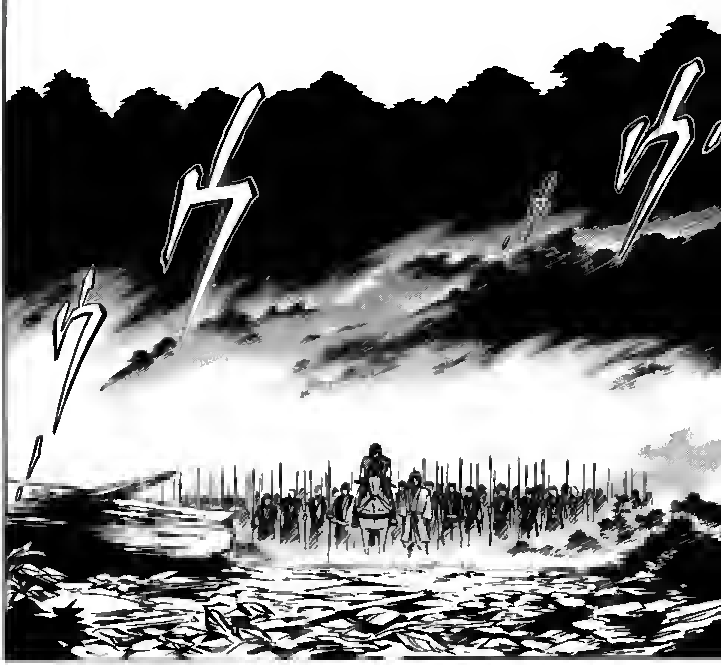
Bano-guchi.

HE'S HERE!

ピク
……


THIS IS GOOD.
NOW, THEY WILL JUST HAVE TO MOVE FORWARD A LITTLE—
Even if more genin were around... still the outcome of this battle will be the same after they experience a successful ambush from the ground.

I COMPLETELY AGREE WITH YOU.
TSUGE-DONO...



18

What the...?!
STAB THE GROUND.
I can see your bamboo pipes.
YOU HAVE BEEN UNDER-ESTIMATING ME BIG TIME...

AIM AT THE BAMBOO PIPES AND STAB!!!
GYA AAA AH!
GAH!
GYA AH
PRESS FOR-WARD!
20
DAMN...
D..

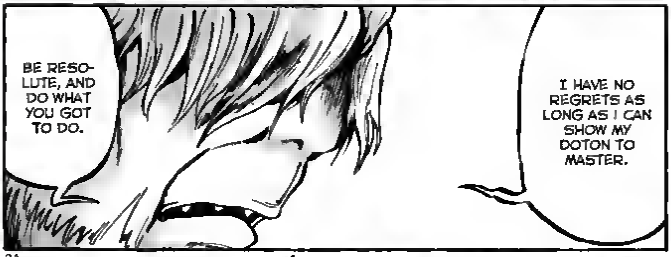
ドス
ザ
GAA AH!
GOOD, LET'S MOVE.
カコ
カコ

YEAH, THAT'S A JUTSU TO BEHOLD FOR SURE.
BUT, DID YOU SEE THIS, MASTER?
MY TRUE DOTON* JUTSU NEEDS NO BAMBOO PIPES WHATSOEVER.
BUT STILL, KISARU

T/N: DOTON (EARTH RELEASE) ARE TECHNIQUES THAT ALLOW THE USER TO MANIPULATE THEIR EARTH CHAKRA-NATURE, ENABLING THEM TO USE THE SURROUNDING GROUND FOR OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE PURPOSES.

WE HAVE 1500 ON OUR SIDE; WHICH MEANS EVERYTHING IS NOW OBVIOUS.
WHAT THE?!
WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH ONLY THIS MANY SHINOBI?
KISARU, COME TO YOUR SENSES AND JOIN MY SIDE.
I'LL SAVE YOU FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE.

CUT ME DOWN!


BE RESOLUTE, AND DO WHAT YOU GOT TO DO.
I HAVE NO REGRETS AS LONG AS I CAN SHOW MY DOTON TO MASTER.

24

!?
WAIT A SEC.

.....

CAN'T YOU HEAR IT?
WHAT?
IT SEEMS LIKE ISE'S WATER HAS MADE YOUR HEARING DE-TERIORATE HUH.
KEH KEH KEH
SHI-MOYAMA HEIBEE
.....?
? ? ? ?

CAN'T YOU HEAR THAT SOUND?!

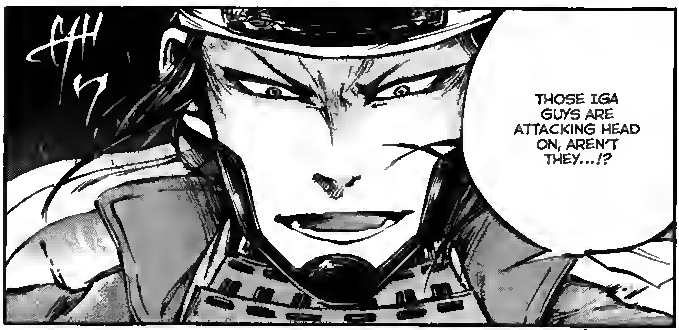
HEIBEE ...
YOU ARE NO LONGER A SHINOBI...!!

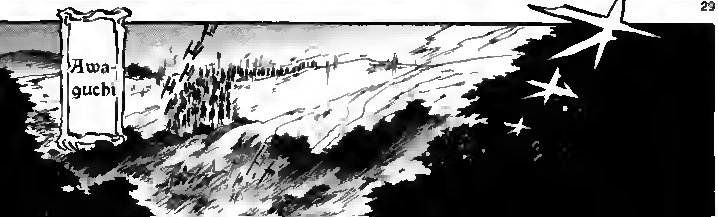
MASTE-E-R... WHAT DO YOU THINK OF "ONLY THIS MANY SHINOBI" NOW?!

!?!!
TSUGE-DONO, CROUCH NOW!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED...
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT THEY'D COME BACK

SO, IT'S ON?!

OHH...
TSUGE PROPOSED MOVING VANGUARDS IN ORDER TO EXPOSE IGA JUTSU, BUT...


THOSE IGA GUYS ARE ATTACKING HEAD ON, AREN'T THEY...!?


Awa-guchi

DON'T ...
DON'T USE UP YOUR ARROWS!
ARGH!
ARGH!
I... I CAN SEE THEM!
EVERY-ONE....
I SPOTTED A DETACHED FORCE COMING FROM THE MOUNTAIN TRAILS OF AWAGUCHI!
DON'T STOP SHOOTING! JUST KEEP ON FIRING FROM BOTH SIDES AND BLOW 'EM AWAY!
OOOOU!

……!?
What's going on?
31
Stopped...!
The detached force movement has...
!?

32

Shinobi no Kuni

by WADA Ryou & BANNO Mutsumi

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Mumon needs you! He might even teach you his jitsu if you agree to translate it XD

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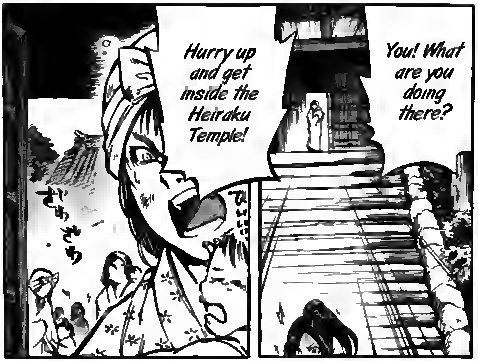
Huff
Huff
Huff
Ah!
Ouch
2


Hurry up and get inside the Heiraku Temple!
You! What are you doing there?

Mumon-dono, please be safe...

ドドド

!!
THE IGA SHI-NOBI?
If the approaching enemies are wearing white, it is proof that they are hesitating. If they are wearing black, their morale is high.
WHICH IS IT? BLACK OR WHITE?
BLACK?!

What is with their strangely high morale...?

They cannot be compared to the ones at the Tamanuki Forest. !!

IGA TROOPS' MORALE... IF IT WERE THE SAME AT THE OTHER ATTACKING ROUTES, CAPTURE WOULD BE DIFFICULT.
WE CANNOT AFFORD TO BE COMPLACENT... !!
THE REST, FOLLOW ME!
AYE!

WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT IS HAPPEN-ING?

THAT IS...

EEK!
ARE A-
THEY NEW FORCES FROM IGA?!
UH...

T-TRAI TORS...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AFTER ALL THIS WHILE?
YOU ...
!

ARGH!
ARG HH!

EEK....
HELP ...
YOU BASTARD, MUMON!

THE SCOLDING CAN WAIT.
GAH!

MUMON!
MUMON!
I KNEW ... YOU'D COME BACK!
What is it now?

... I'VE MADE YOU WAIT, HUH?
He has a face, like steel!
THAT MAN IS HERE...
HOW COULD I FORGET...
THAT BLOOD THIRST...
DON'T LET THE ENEMIES GET CLOSE!!
DO NOT LOSE YOUR SPIRIT AND PUSH FORWARD...
AAH... NEW FORCES!

13
FOOLS—
HERE THEY COME...

!?
GAH!
GH
PRE-
PARE
YOUR-
SELF!!
ARRO-
GANT
BASTARD
...

YOU ARE SLOW, WARRIOR.
!!
WH A-
AH ?!
15
EEE
EEK!
GUH,
WAH!

TROOPS OF IGA, HEAR ME!!
IN THIS BATTLE,
10 MON FOR THE HEADS OF FOOT SOLDIERS
10 KAN FOR THE HEADS WITH HELMETS
AND 5000 KAN FOR THE HEAD OF NOBUKATSU!
NON-SENSE!
FROM WHERE AND WHOM SUCH MONEY GOING TO COME FROM!?
!!?
FIVE THOUSAND KAN FOR MY HE[illegible]!?

WELL THEN, THE FIRST 10 KAN HAS GONE TO ME, MUMON.
YOU... BAS-TARDS
17
MU-MON!
KILL THE MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF MUMON!!
WHAT IS HAPPENING?
MONEY FOR OUR HEADS...?

20
WH-WHY ARE YOU RETREATING?! STAY IN FORMATION!!
WE FAR EXCEED THEM IN NUMBERS,
THERE IS NO NEED TO HESI-TATE... GUH!

THE FRONT FORMATION HAS COLLAPSED, THIS HAS NOW TURNED INTO A BATTLE ROYAL TO THE LAST ONE STANDING.
.....
IN ADDITION, THERE IS A LONE IGA SHINOBI WHO IS HEADING HERE WITH FRIGHTENING FORCE...
THE WAY THAT HE CARRIES HIMSELF IS CLEARLY DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS, WE CAN NOT STOP HIM!
Mumon ...!
21
Y- you ...
...4
5
6
7
UWO OOO AH!

REMEMBER THIS WELL, AND MAKE USE OF IT IN YOUR NEXT LIFE.....
THE WEAPON MUST BE SHORT FOR BATTLES IN THE MOUNTAINS.
EE EYA AAH !!!

!!
HE'S STRONG
AS ONE WOULD EXPECT OF MUMON, HUH?
... HMM?
9
23
HMPH
HE'S IN DANGER... IT'S TOO LATE
MUMON!
WHAT IS IT?
DON'T TALK TO ME WHILE I'M IN BATTLE. YOU'RE DISTRACTING ME

AND WITH YOU, IT'S EXACTLY 50 KAN AND 500 MON.
10.
!
24

Hello
THERE YOU ARE, 5000 KAN...!!

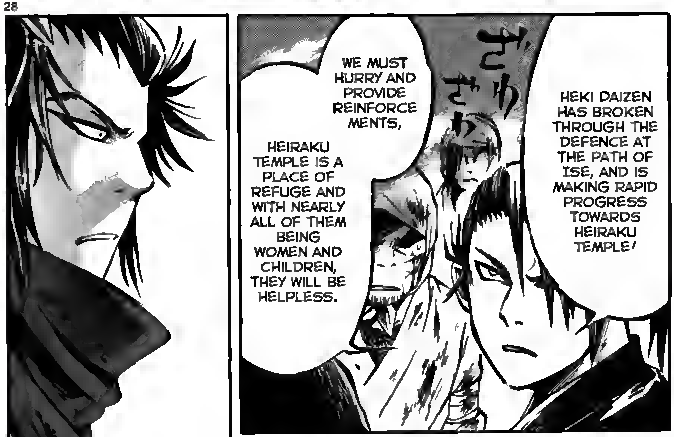
AIM ALL THE RIFLES AT HIM!!
K-KILL THAT MAN!
UH...! GUH...THEN WHAT SHOULD WE DO!?
BUT MY LORD, IN THIS MELEE RANGE WE WILL STRIKE OUR OWN SOLDIERS
IN ORDER TO STOP HIM...
SOMEBOD...! STOP THAT MAN!!
SOME BODY

HEIRAKU TEMPLE IS IN DANGER!!!

Just a little more —

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
.....!?
HE STOP-PED...?

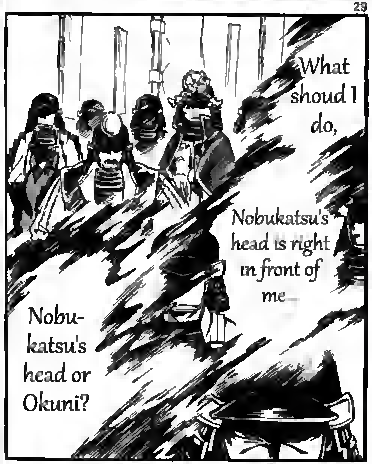
28


HEKI DAIZEN HAS BROKEN THROUGH THE DEFENCE AT THE PATH OF ISE, AND IS MAKING RAPID PROGRESS TOWARDS HEIRAKU TEMPLE!
WE MUST HURRY AND PROVIDE REINFORCE MENTS,
HEIRAKU TEMPLE IS A PLACE OF REFUGE AND WITH NEARLY ALL OF THEM BEING WOMEN AND CHILDREN, THEY WILL BE HELPLESS.

OKUNI, TAKE THIS AND WAIT AT HEIRAKU TEMPLE.

There is only...

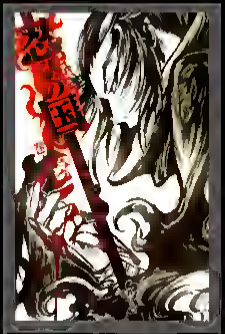
Daizen, huh...? That bastard...


What shoud I do,
Nobukatsu's head is right in front of me...
Nobu-katsu's head or Okuni?

ONE ANSWER!!!
!?!
MY LORD!

Shinobi no Kuni

by WADA Ryou & BANNO Mutsumi



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Shinobi no Kuni Chapter 16

BANO-GUCHI
THAT'S IT...! GET THOSE HELMET HEADS NOW...
KILL TSUGE SABUROU ZAEMON!
YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME...
GUH!
NGH!
UGH...

IF I DON'T MOVE BACK QUICKLY TO THE REAR,
I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO PROTECT TSUGE-DONO...
SHIT! I CAN'T MOVE FREELY IN SUCH LARGE NUMBERS ..
HEIBEI,
I'M GRATE-FUL FOR YOUR HELP...

Damn it, did I not strike hard enough?
TSUGE-DONO!!
!!?
10 KAN!!

HEY TSUGE,
STEP BACK WITH THE SHINOBI.
FROM HERE ON, IT'LL BE THE SAMURAI'S TURN.
!
UH...
THAT IS...

AN OOTACHI*!
IF YOU WERE TO MENTION THE OOTACHI MASTER OF ISE,
THERE IS NO ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW HIS NAME.
YOU... YOU WERE AT THE APPROACHES?!
*T/N: A LARGE SWORD USED USUALLY ON HORSEBACK
5
NAGANO SAKYOU-NOSUKE!
LISTEN ALL, DO NOT FALL BACK!
WE WILL FOLLOW DAIZEN WHO WENT IN ONE STEP AHEAD OF US!!

ヒュン
6
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ヒュ

THE RED GATE IS ON FIRE...
AND CLOSING TOWARDS US.
.....
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
わぁあぁあ
ラァ
ゴボ
ゴボ

There is hardly anyone with battle capabilities...
Here in Heiraku Temple...
Okuni,
Wait at Heiraku Temple.
However...

HEAR ME OUT ALL OF YOU!!
!?
IN THIS SITUATION, THERE IS NO OTHER WAY BUT FOR US, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, TO PROTECT HEIRAKU TEMPLE.
A PARENT MUST PROTECT THE CHILD,
AND THE CHILD MUST PROTECT THE PARENT.

We must do this...!
THE TIME IS NOW.

Go!
!?

12
CHARGE!!!
WH-
WHAT ...
WAS THAT ...?

!?
ヤバい！

WHAT IS THIS?
EVEN THE WOMEN ARE THROWING STRANGE THINGS...
I AM HEKI DAIZEN!

IF YOU THROW AWAY YOUR WEAPONS, I WILL SPARE YOUR LIVES.
HE'S THAT DEMON OF ISE
IT'S HIM...
HEKI... DAIZEN...
THROW THEM AWAY!!
Mmhmm!
Ugh!

15

SO SHE HASN'T GIVEN UP..
.....!!

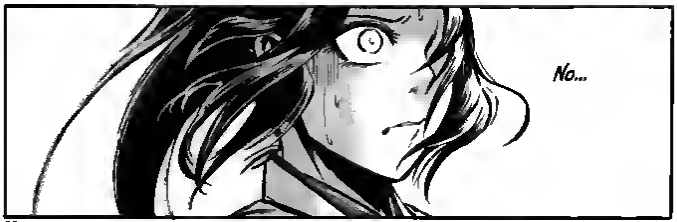
I AM NOT HIS WIFE YET!!
!
HOW FRIGHTENING...
COULD THE WIFE OF MUMON BE SUCH A GIRL?
COULD IT BE HER?
!?

I AM OF SAMURAI LINEAGE, THERE IS NO NEED TO HOLD BACK!
TREAT ME WITH THE CUSTOMS OF THE WARRIOR CLASS!
18
YOU SAID IT.
SOME-ONE, GIVE ME A SPEAR!

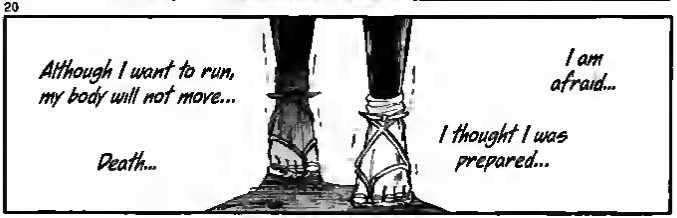
WOMAN, WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
OKUNI.

GYA!
GYA AAA AAH HH!

OKUNI, HERE I COME!!


No...

20


Although I want to run, my body will not move...
Death...
I am afraid...
I thought I was prepared...

DO NOT THINK BADLY OF ME...!
!?
He's here?

Mumon!!

*T/N: Umamawari were samurai on horseback acting as bodyguards for their general in the battlefield

WASN'T THAT DANGE-ROUS?!
GEEZ,
YOU SHOULDN'T PICK A FIGHT WITH A MAN THAT BIG.

HEY YOU BAIZEN OVER THERE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY WIFE!?
Liar.
THAT WOMAN JUST TOLD ME SHE WASN'T YOUR WIFE.

ふと…
HHH
ふと…

ふと…

26

I-IDIOT, HURRY UP AND PULL OUT YOUR SWORD!
!?!
MUMON-DONO?!
ふと
WHOO OAH!

AAH!
……？
……そ

!?!

YOU BASTARD!
"I am the greatest ninja of Iga."
He wasn't lying...
28
Those words were...
Even so...
Always with his vague lies and frivolous laughter.

Mumon-dono's one and only truth...
Those words were...
29
MUMON...
...DONO.
WELL THEN...

VOLUME 3/ END
TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 4

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